IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 60 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter,

and please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject

application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A processing method of ordering a new

consumable to be used by a printer and returning a used consumable, used by the printer,

being performed by an information processing system that communicates with a ~~plurality~~

~~of~~ terminal[[s]] via the Internet, said method comprising the steps of:

the information processing system receiving, from the terminal,

participating information, indicating whether or not a user wishes to participate in a return

service for returning a used consumable corresponding to a particular type of consumable,

~~from at least one terminal of the plurality of terminals;~~ wherein the return service is

provided by the system to allow the user to return the used consumable;

the information processing system setting a participating flag corresponding

to the user, which is managed by the information processing system, in a memory unit in

accordance with the received participating information, wherein the information processing

system manages a plurality of participating flags corresponding to different types of

consumables ordered by the user;

the information processing system receiving, from the terminal, a request

for ordering a new consumable;

in response to receiving the request, the information processing system

transmitting first information containing data fields for ordering the new consumable for

display on a display screen to ~~at least one of the plurality~~ of the terminal[[s]] ~~for display on~~

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a screen, and allowing whereby the user to inputs data into the data fields to order the new consumable and to specify specifies in the data fields of the first information that the user desires to the return of the used consumable;

the terminal transmitting the data input in the data fields for ordering the new consumable and specifying the user's desire to return the used consumable to the information processing system; and

in response to receiving the input data for ordering the new consumable and specifying the user's desire to return the used consumable from the terminal, the information processing system transmitting second information for display on the screen of at least one of the plurality of terminal[[s]], the second information which includes comprising one of a message (a) prompting the user to participate in the return service in a case where at least one participating flag corresponding to the user indicates that the user does not already participate in the return service, or and (b) indicating a history regarding the return of the used consumable by the user and an incentive point for a discount toward the order for the new consumable, the amount of the incentive point corresponding to the history in a case where a participating flag corresponding to the user indicates that the user already participates in the return service.

2. to 57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A processing method for returning a used consumable, used by a printer, being performed by an information processing system that communicates with a plurality of terminal[[s]] via the Internet, said method comprising the steps of:

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the information processing system receiving, from the terminal, user log-in

information from one of the plurality of terminals;

the information processing system receiving, from the terminal,

participating information, indicating whether or not the user wishes to participate in the

return service for returning a the used consumable corresponding to a particular type of

consumable, wherein the return service is provided by the system to allow the user to return

the used consumable;

the information processing system setting a participating flag in

correspondence with the user log-in information based on the received participating

information, wherein the information processing system manages a plurality of flags

corresponding to different types of consumables ordered by the user;

the information processing system reading a history from a database, which

corresponds to the user log-in information, regarding the used consumable to be returned

by the user from a database;

the information processing system determining an incentive point for a

discount toward an order for a new consumable, based on the history read in said reading

step;

managing at least one participating flag corresponding to the user log-in

information in a memory unit in accordance with a participation condition for a returning

service of a user corresponding to the user log-in information, wherein the information

processing system manages a plurality of participating flags corresponding to different

types of consumables ordered by the user; and

the information processing system receiving, from the terminal, data

specifying the user's desire to return the used consumable; and

in response to receiving the data specifying the user's desire to return the used consumable, the information processing system generating a message to be sent to one of the plurality of the terminal[[s]] in accordance with the participating flag corresponding to the user log-in information, wherein the generated message comprises one of a message (a) promptly the user to participate in the return service in a case where at least one participating flag corresponding to the user log-in indicates that the user does not already participate in the return service, and (b) indicating the history regarding the return of the consumable read in the reading step and the incentive point determined in the determining step in a case where the participating flag corresponding to the user log-in indicates that the user already participates in the return service.

59. to 66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 58, further comprising the steps of:

managing an ordering history of the consumable and a returning history of the used consumable, which are stored in the database and correspond to the user log-in information; and

keeping track of returning of the used consumable which corresponds to the user log-in information, by using the order history and the returning history.

68. (Canceled)